

Appendix C - Timeline of Rescue/Recovery Events

May 20, 2006

- 01:05 a.m.**---MSHA and the Kentucky Office of Mine Safety and Licensing (OMSL) were notified by Ralph Napier, superintendent, about an accident at the mine.
- 01:54 a.m.**---MSHA personnel arrived at the mine site and a 103(k) order was issued.
- 02:00 a.m.**---The Lone Mountain Mine Rescue team was notified about the explosion and was dispatched to the mine site.
- 02:01 a.m.**---MSHA personnel using a MSA Solaris (Solaris) multiple gas detector took quality readings at the mine fan and had 20.8 percent oxygen, 2.6 percent methane, and over 500 ppm CO.
- 02:05 a.m.**---MSHA was informed by the company that the underground power had been disconnected. Readings at the fan were 20.8 percent oxygen, 2.2 percent methane, and over 500ppm CO.
- 02:15 a.m.**---OMSL personnel arrived at the mine. MSHA, OMSL, and company personnel established a command center in the mine office.
- 02:30 a.m.**---Quality air readings were taken. At the fan the readings indicated 20.8 percent oxygen, 0.2 percent methane, and over 500 ppm CO. At the portals the readings indicated 20.8 percent oxygen, 0 percent methane, and from 13-24 ppm CO.
- 02:32 a.m.**---The first response personnel traveled the main intake airway toward the active section. Communications were maintained by using hand held radios.
- 02:50 a.m.**--- The James River Coal mine rescue team was notified about the explosion and was dispatched to the mine site.
- 03:00 a.m.**--- The Lone Mountain mine rescue team arrived at the mine site and was briefed at the command center.
- 03:10 a.m.**---Paul Ledford was found at crosscut No. 13 in the main intake entry. Ledford could not walk. A call was made to the outside to bring a personnel carrier (buggy) to this location in order to transport Ledford to the surface.
- 03:30 a.m.**---Ledford arrived on the surface.
- 03:31 a.m.**---Examinations were made in the area of the No. 3 Belt Drive and three breaks inby in the belt and neutral entries.
- 03:40 a.m.**---The phone line inby the No.3 Belt Drive was disconnected. The mine phone was utilized for communications outby the No. 3 Belt Drive. A fresh air base (FAB) was established at crosscut No. 17 in the No. 6 Entry at survey station No. 507.
- 04:00 a.m.**---The Harlan OMSL mine rescue team started underground and traveled to the FAB. They donned their apparatuses and traveled to the return entries.
- 04:15 a.m.**---When the team arrived in the return a light was observed and they advanced toward the light. Paris Thomas, Jr. was found in the crosscut between the No. 3 and No. 2 Entries at crosscut No. 20.
- 04:32 a.m.**---Part of the Lone Mountain mine rescue team (designated as first) accompanied by a MSHA Mine Emergency Unit (MEU) team member traveled to the FAB.
- 04:40 a.m.**---The second team from Lone Mountain accompanied by a MEU team member traveled to the FAB.
- 04:46 a.m.**---The FAB was advanced to crosscut No. 22 in the No. 7 Entry.

04:50 a.m.---The first Lone Mountain team donned apparatuses and advanced toward the active section. They communicated using 1,000 feet of hard line (communication cable with headsets).

05:05 a.m.---The first Lone Mountain team observed a light outby in the No. 5 Entry and another one inby toward the section. The team advanced toward the inby light. A buggy with its lights on was found on the debris from the blown out intake overcast. The top and bottom lids for two SCSRs were found on the buggy.

05:10 a.m.---The team retreated and then traveled to the light located outby in the No. 5 Entry.

05:16 a.m.---Bill Petra was found between crosscuts No. 23 and 24 in the No. 5 entry. Approximately 20 feet outby this location another victim was found (later identified as Jimmy Lee).

05:25 a.m.---Lone Mountain team members accompanied by a MEU member advanced toward the B Left Section. The team observed a light in the direction of the section. A second buggy was found at the second crosscut on the section with the lights on. One crosscut inby the buggy, the top and bottom lids for two SCSRs were found.

05:43 a.m.---The Lone Mountain team traveled in four entries and advanced to the faces.

05:45 a.m.---The Barbourville OMSL mine rescue team traveled to the FAB.

06:19 a.m.---The Barbourville team advanced to the location of the A Left Seals. **07:05 a.m.**---Hazard OMSL mine rescue team traveled to the FAB.

07:08 a.m.---All seals were blown out. Quality readings at the No. 1 seal location were 19.1 percent oxygen, 1.5 percent methane, and CO was off scale.

07:30 a.m.---The FAB was advanced to the No. 31 crosscut in the No. 7 Entry.

07:35 a.m.---The Barbourville team advanced in the return entries from the A Left Seals to the B Left section.

07:50 a.m.---Seven members of the Lone Mountain team advanced inby toward the main headings and three members of the team advanced outby in the belt entry to locate the remaining missing miners.

08:00 a.m.---The James River Coal mine rescue team arrived at the mine site and was briefed by the command center.

08:25 a.m.---The Hazard OMSL team advanced from the return seals location outby in the return airways. The Martin OMSL team advanced in the return airways from the outside. These two teams traveled the entire return searching for the remaining miners.

08:45 a.m.---The three members from the Lone Mountain team found Roy Middleton in the crosscut between the No. 5 and No. 4 Entries at crosscut No. 21.

08:50 a.m.---In the crosscut between the No. 5 and No. 4 entries at crosscut No. 23 a body was found (later identified as Amon Brock).

10:55 a.m.---The victims were transported to the surface.

Note: Times are estimates based on interviews and notes.